

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-07

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EXDIS- DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E. O: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. ALGERIA- US RELATIONS

A. WE EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT BROADCAST...

THE DEPARTMENT CALLED IN BOUSSELHAM, HEAD OF THE ALGERIAN INTEREST SECTION, AND EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE ALGIERS " VOICE OF PALESTINE" BROADCAST CALLING FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF AMERICANS. WE NOTED IT COMES AT A TIME WHEN PASSIONS ARE RUNNING HIGH IN THE ARAB WORLD AND WHEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM IS ABOUT TO VISIT ALGIERS. BOUSSELHAM VIGOROUSLY OBJECTED TO WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A " PROTEST" TO ALGERIA AND STATED THERE NEED BE NO CONCERN FOR THE SECURITY OF THE NEWSOM PARTY. (CONFIDENTIAL) STATE 067490, 4/11.

B. ... WHILE NEWSOM VISIT REMAINS ON THE TRACKS

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AN ALGERIAN PRESIDENCY OFFICIAL ASSURED THE CHIEF
OF OUR INTERESTS SECTION APRIL 11 THAT THE "CONTENT"

OF THE NEWSOM VISIT WILL NOT BE AFFECTED BY THE
BEIRUT RAID. THE OFFICIAL SAID HE EXPECTED THE
VISIT TO MARK "A NEW STEP" IN RELATIONS BETWEEN
ALGERIA AND THE US. (CONFIDENTIAL) ALGIERS
869, 4/11.

2. CAMBODIA CONVOYS

A. GENERAL HAIG URGES GVN TO PROTECT CONVOYS . . .

GENERAL HAIG TOLD VIETNAMESE PRIME MINISTER KHIEM
APRIL 11 THAT THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA IS "SERIOUS,"
BUT THAT MILITARY ACTIVITY WAS IN FACT AT A VERY LOW
LEVEL. HAIG STRESSED THE US DETERMINATION TO STABI-
LIZE THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA AND URGED THAT THE
GVN DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ASSURE THE SECURITY OF
CONVOYS BOUND FOR PHNOM PENH. KHIEM AGREED THAT THE
GVN SHOULD. THE DEPARTMENT HAS INSTRUCTED EMBASSY
SAIGON TO RECOMMEND WHAT, IF ANY, CORRECTIVE ACTION
SHOULD BE TAKEN. (SECRET) SAIGON 1630, STATE 068016,
4/11 (EXDIS)

B. . . AND THE GVN ESTABLISHES A TASK FORCE

CONSULATE CAN THO REPORTS THAT NINE MERCHANT SHIPS
REMAINED IN TAN CHAU APRIL 11 AWAITING ESCORT TO
PHNOM PENH. THE VIETNAMESE NAVY HAS ESTABLISHED A
TASK FORCE TO DIRECT THE ESCORT TO THE CAMBODIAN
BORDER, AND SENIOR GVN OFFICERS MET APRIL 11 TO
ASSESS THE MEKONG SITUATION. THE CONVOY IS
EXPECTED TO RESUME ON THE 12 TH OR 13 TH. HOWEVER,
SIX CAPTAINS HAVE SAID THEY DO NOT WANT TO CONTINUE.
(CONFIDENTIAL) SAIGON 6145, 4/11.

3. FRENCH VIEWS ON CAMBODIA

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EMBASSY PARIS REPORTS THE FRENCH BELIEVE THAT SIHANOUK ACTUALLY VISITED CAMBODIA, BUT THAT THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE THE TRIP INCREASED POPULAR ENTHUSIASM FOR THE SIHANOUK CAUSE. A QUAI OFFICIAL STRESSES THAT FRANCE IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR CONTACTS BETWEEN SIHANOUK AND LON NOL REPRESENTATIVES. AT PRESENT, THE FRENCH SEE NO NEW GROUNDS FOR HOPE FOR A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. (CONFIDENTIAL) PARIS 10175, 4/11.

4. GVN CONCERNED ABOUT WALDHEIM' S MANEUVERING

OUR MISSION TO THE UN BELIEVES THE GVN MISSION IS SATISFIED THAT A NEW YORK OFFICE FOR THE PRG IS A DEAD ISSUE. HOWEVER, THE GVN MISSION IS UNEASY ABOUT ARRANGEMENTS WALDHEIM IS PLANNING TO MAKE FOR CONTINUING CONTACTS IN PARIS WITH THE PRG ON HUMANITARIAN AID. GVN AMBASSADOR CHI DELIVERED TO A UN OFFICIAL APRIL 10 AN AIDE- MEMOIRE EXPRESSING GVN " RESERVATIONS" ABOUT A UN NOTE CONCERNING ASSISTANCE TO THE " INTERESTED PARTIES" IN VIETNAM. (SECRET) USUN 1318, 4/11 (EXDIS).

5. ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE IMBROGLIO CONTINUES

AMBASSADOR IRVING REPORTS THAT THE ONLY ARGUMENT MAKING FOREIGN MINISTER AGUSTSSON WAVER IN HIS DETERMINATION TO TRIGGER THE REVIEW PROVISION OF THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT IS THE POSSIBILITY OF PREJUDICIAL CONSEQUENCES FOR MBFR. AGUSTSSON IS WILLING TO CONSIDER FURTHER ARGUMENTATION IF PRESENTED WITHIN TWO WEEKS AND CLAIMS THAT EVERYTHING WILL COME OUT ALL RIGHT IN THE LONG RUN. AMBASSADOR IRVING SUGGESTS THAT WE SHOULD FIND NO COMFORT IN THIS ASSERTION, GIVEN THE FOREIGN MINISTER' S PAST PERFORMANCE. (SECRET) REYKJAVIK 380, 4/11. ROGERS

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